HO-500, Williams House 5828 Main St., Elkridge Surveyed by: Kristin Hill April 2003

### **ADDENDUM**

# Section 3. Owner of Property

Emily Daniels 5854 Washington Blvd. Elkridge, Maryland 21075

## Section 4. Location of Legal Description

Howard County Courthouse Ellicott City Liber 890, Folio 336 Tax map 38, parcel 575

## Section 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

X Other Contributing building in the Elkridge Landing Historic Survey District, HO-784

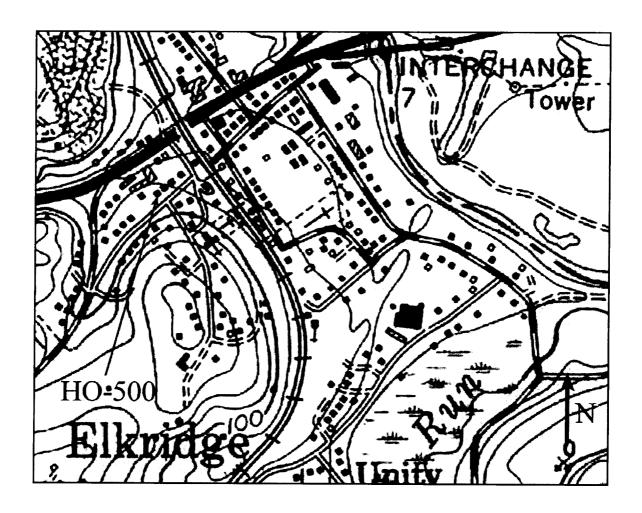
# Section 7. Description

Condition: Altered Date: ca. 1890

This house, recorded as the Williams House in the 1970's inventory, faces south on the north side of Main Street. Now divided into apartments, it has not fared well in the years since it was first surveyed, and most of the character defining details of the house have been lost. The two story, five bay frame dwelling rests on a stone foundation and has a variety of steeply pitched roof lines and attractive corbelled brick chimneys. Unfortunately, the decorative barge boards and a wrap around front porch with scroll decoration and chamfered square posts, the main elements identifying this structure as belonging to the Folk Victorian genre, have been removed. A plain gabled entry portico shelters the replacement modern steel door. Some of the windows are 1/1 wood while others have been replaced with 1/1 vinyl units. The house is wrapped in vinyl siding and the standing seam metal roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles. Half of the large front yard is now a dirt parking lot for the apartment residents, and the elaborate gardens mentioned in the original inventory form have disappeared.

#### Section 11. Form Prepared by

Kristin H. Hill, Architectural Historian Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043 410-313-4335 May 2003



HO-500, Williams House Elkridge, Howard County, MD USGS Topographic Quadrangle, Relay 7.5 Minute Series, 1957 (PR 1966 and 1974)



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HO-500 The Williams House Private Elkridge

The Williams House faces south on the north side of Main Street, Elkridge. It is a five bay wide, two bay wide, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame house, resting on a east and west walls. Two two and a half story high, two bay wide, two bay deep, intersecting gable roof (running north-south) south chimneys in the exterior walls, spring from the east and west sides of the south wall.

A one story high, hipped roof, open porch, runs along the entire south elevation of these twin gable wings and the west wall of the west gable wing, supported by six square posts with scrolled brackets and two pilasters. The central bay of the original building, holding the rectangular paneled entrance, surmounted by a two light transom, flanked by two vertical side lights extends south to become flush with the south walls of the gabled wings, and is covered by an intersecting gable roof (running north-south).

The building features scalloped barge boards, a double rectangular second floor window, inset into the central bay of the original house, and one and two story high north additions.

Located on land once owned by Anna Hill in 1860, the house is believed to have been constructed by Dr. Arthur Williams, circa 1887.

MACT # 140500 9004

# INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

STREET & NUMBER  5828 Main Street  CITY. TOWN  Elkridge
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Howard County Historic Sites Inventory
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#### CONDITION

X-EXCELLENT

\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_RUINS
\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_UNALTERED

X\_ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X\_ORIGINAL SITE

CHECK ONE

# DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Williams House faces south on the north side of Main Street, Elkridge. It is a five bay wide, two bay wide, two and a half story, gabled roof (running east-west) frame house, resting on a field stone foundation with square brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls. Two two and a half story high, two bay wide, two bay deep intersecting gable roof (running north-south) south wings, holding tall, square, brick chimneys in their exterior walls, spring from the east and west sides of the south wall. They rest also on a stone foundation and feature a one story high hipped roof, open porch running along their entire south wall and along the west wall of the west gable wing. The central portion of this porch becomes an intersectinggable roof (running north-south), covering the rectangular paneled entrance, which lies flush with the south walls of the twin gables. The open porch is supported by six square posts with scrolled brackets and two pilasters. The entrance is surmounted by a two light transom and flanked by two vertical site lights, while a wooden railing runs the perimeter of the open porch.

A double rectangular second floor window, inset into the central bay of the original house, holds one-over-one lights, each section of which is divided by a flat pilaster.

3calloped barge boards decorate the gable ends of each twin section on the south elevation, and those east and west gables of the main section of the house.

Fenestration for the house is rectangular, vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. The windows are double hung, holding one-overone lights, decorated with flat wooden sills.

Two such first and second floor and attic windows are placed in the east and west walls of the main section of the house. The east and west walls also hold a six-over-six light basement window.

The intersecting gables of the house add interest and charm, as well as a unity of scale and proportion; their east and west walls being identical, holding two first and second floor windows and a six-light basement window. One further two story high, intersecting gable roof (running north-south) north wing extends north, two bays wide and one bay deep with tall, square brick chimney inset into its north wall.

Fenestration for this section of the house is also vertically aligned and proportionally scaled:

Two four light attic windows only are placed in the north wall CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

of this section. Eight wooden steps along its east stone foundation wall (holding a south entrance and west six-over-six light window) lead to a first floor wooden landing and open porch, supported by three square wooden posts and scrolled brackets, whose flat roof supports a second floor enclosure along this east elevation, covered with a shed roof and holding a two-over-two light window on the south and a one-over-one light window on the north.

A first floor rectangular entrance, surmounted by a one-light transom, is located in the north bay. South of it is a two-over-two light window.

One further one story high, flat roofed frame addition runs along the north wall of the main section of the house on whose west corner rises an additional square second floor appendage.

Six square wooden posts rise from the ground parallel to the base of the foundation wall, to hold the supports for the first floor frame appendages.

The house is surmounded by lovely grounds and garden, and is set back a distance from Main Street.

PERIOD —PREHISTORIC —1400-1499 —1500-1599 —1600-1699 —1700-1799 —1800-1899 —1900-	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  AGRICULTURE  XARCHITECTURE  ART  COMMERCE  COMMUNICATIONS	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CI  COMMUNITY PLANNING  CONSERVATION  ECONOMICS  EDUCATION  ENGINEERING  EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  INDUSTRY  INVENTION	HECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW  LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  LAW  LITERATURE  MILITARY  MUSIC  PHILOSOPHY  POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	RELIGIONSCIENCESCULPTURESOCIAL/HUMANITARIANTHEATERTRANSPORTATION XOTHER (SPECIFY)local_history
SPECIFIC DAT	es circa 1887	BUILDER/ARCHITECT		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Williams House is significant architecturally, as an exceptionally fine example of early nineteenth century, intersecting, gabled roof, frame architecture, historically noteworthy as part of a tract of land, called Hanover, owned by James and Anna Hill in the early eighteen hundreds, who later conveyed the property to Frances E. Henry, wife of Dr. Henry. In addition, it is noteable as the home of the Lineberger, the Williams, the Scharf and the Mickanis families.

Architecturally, the Daniel's House is one of the finest frame houses in Howard County, presenting a unity and symetry, coupled with unusually fine proportion and scale.

Window treatment on the east and west elevations is identical, as is the placement of windows in the south elevation of the east and west twin, intersecting south gables which come forward from the south wall of the main house. Very little stylistic detail occurs in the house; only the scrolled barge boards decorating the eaves, the brackets holding the porches supporting posts, and the decorative treatment of the central south entrance, consisting of a two light transom, flanked by two vertical side lights, embellish this otherwise relatively unadorned building.

It is the massing and scale of the building, dominating its site, yet in complete harmony with it, which, coupled with a unity of composition and stylistic detail, make the building unique. Its five bay wide, two bay deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof, large scaled, main section, from whose east and west sides of its south elevation, extend two and a half story high, intersecting gable roof, south projecting twin bays, provide variety and depth to the building. Their massing emphasises the central bay of the building, which they flank. Such massing and scale are reminiscent of the large frame houses of Lawyer's Hill, but the Daniel's House remains unique in the symetry of its massing. Only a two story high, north addition, featuring an intersecting gable roof, breaks this symetry which appears so strongly on its east, west and south elevations

In addition to its outstanding architectural quality, the building is noteworthy in the history of Elkridge Landing as a part of a tract CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

of land, called "Hanover", which was owned by James and Anna Hill in the early eighteen hundreds.

An old deed refers to a frame house, built by James Hill on the location of the present Elkridge Pharmacy, while other deeds refer to his home, located opposite the Pressley House, on the south side of the old Washington Road. In 1860, Anna Hill, then a widow, conveyed the property to Frances E. Henry, "together with improvements" for \$1,341.00 (21-29). Some fifteen years later, Frances E. Henry conveyed part of the property to S. Lineberger for \$1,230.00, "granting to them free use of water from the spring adjoining and next to the Turnpike in common with all who may become purchasers of the adjoining lot west of the said spring" (owned at that time by Frances Ellicott Henry and now called "Elkridge Springs", HO-501) "together with the owners and purchasers of the Home Place on the opposite side of the Turnpike". (35-532)

By 1887, Samuel and Mary Lineberger, of Baltimore City, had conveyed the property to Dr. Arthur Williams for \$1,300.00. (52-492) who is

believed to have constructed this house.
Dr. Arthur Williams and his wife, Elizabeth Bird Williams, and their family made their home here until 1959, when their son, John M. Williams conveyed the property to Frederick and Virginia Scharf (366-160) who held the property briefly, and in October, 1961 sold it to Joseph P. Mickanis (376-432).

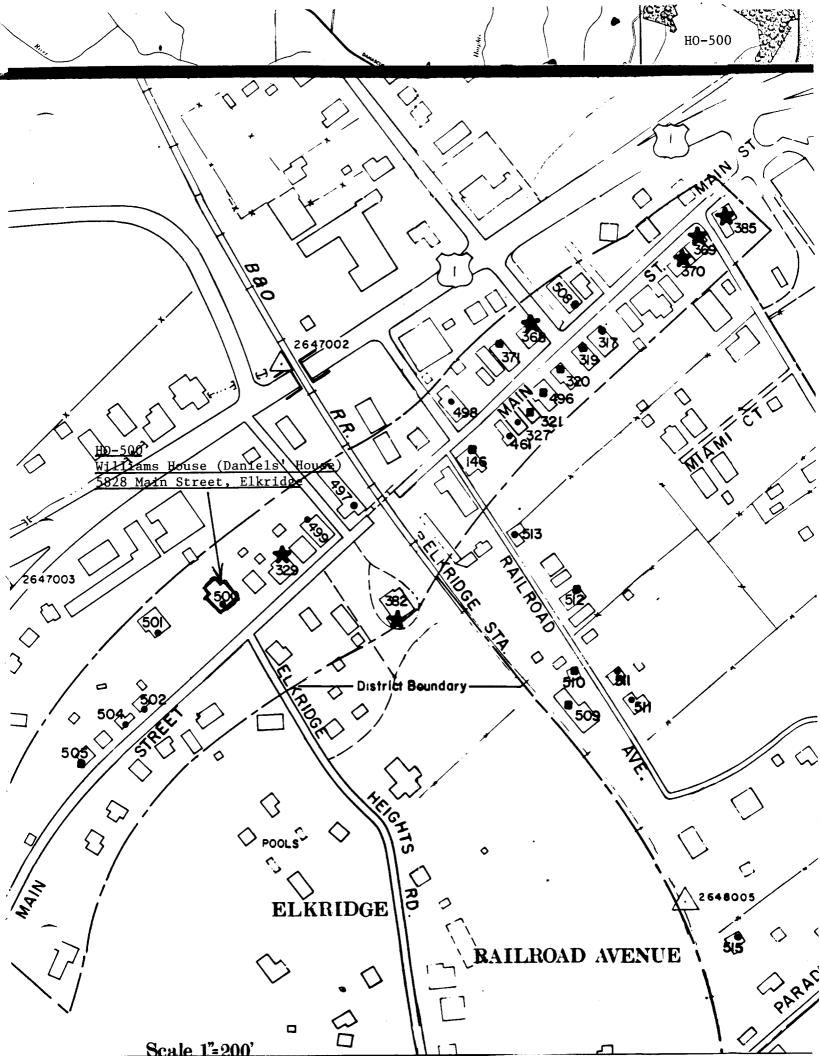
Over the long period of time, between 1887 and 1959, in which the Williams family owned the property, property lines were straightened between this house and Elkridge Springs, adjoining west of the house.

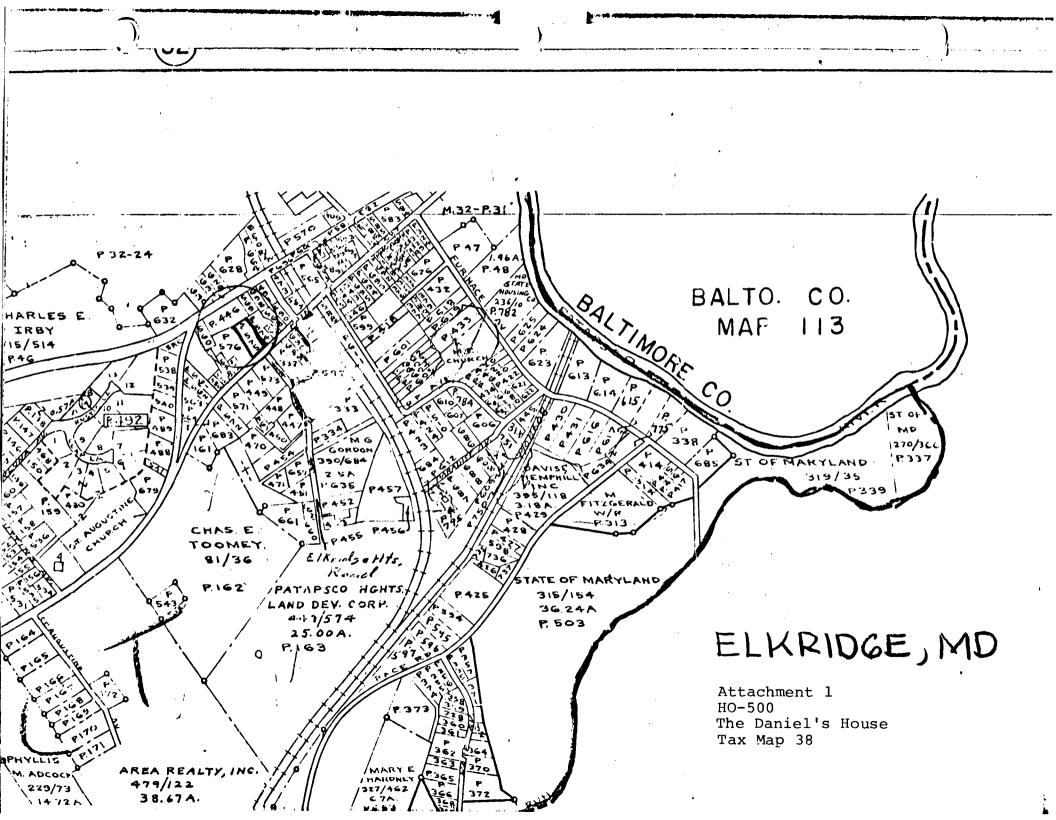
In 1903, Dr. Arthur Williams and his neighbor, Dr. William R. Eareckson, established a firm division line between their properties.

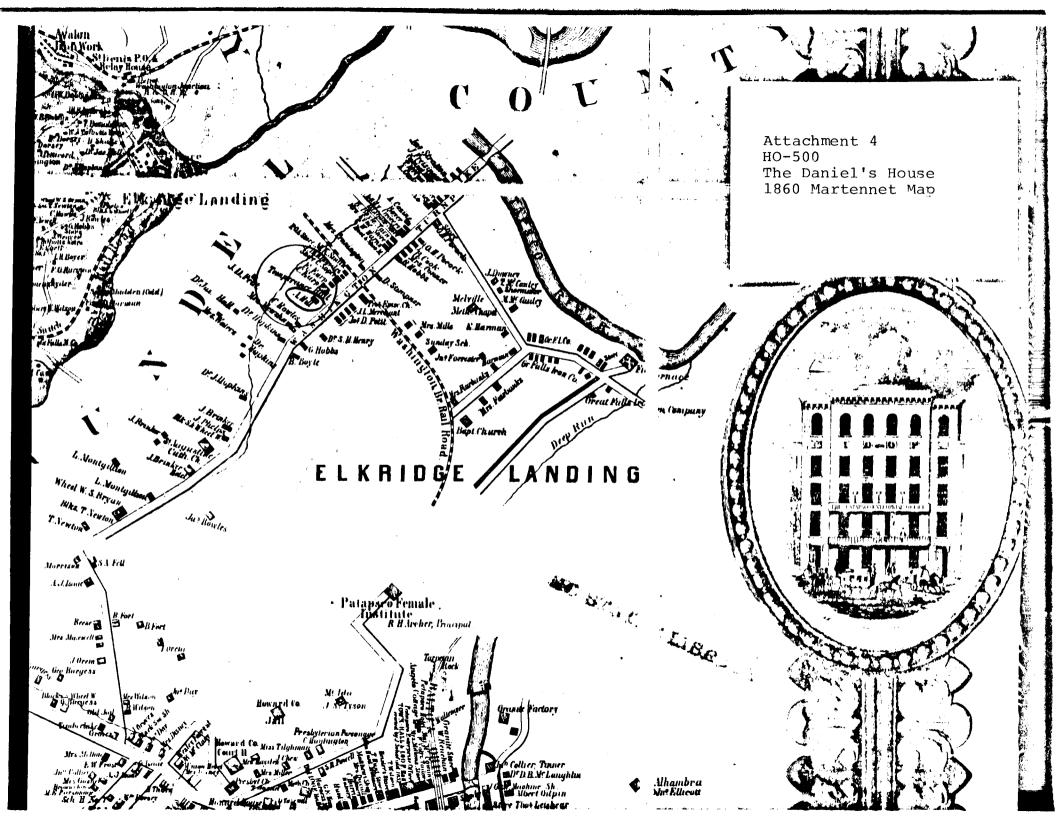
The Daniel's House was well occupied, for Elizabeth Bird Williams, in her will of July 22, 1937 mentions four daughters and two sons. A daughter, Helen L. Best married a Robert Best. Daughter Josephine V. Spear married William Spear, while daughter Eleanor P. Dougherty married Richard Dougherty. Two sons, Arthur I. Williams and John M. Williams, as well as another daughter, Elizabeth Bird Williams, are also mentioned.

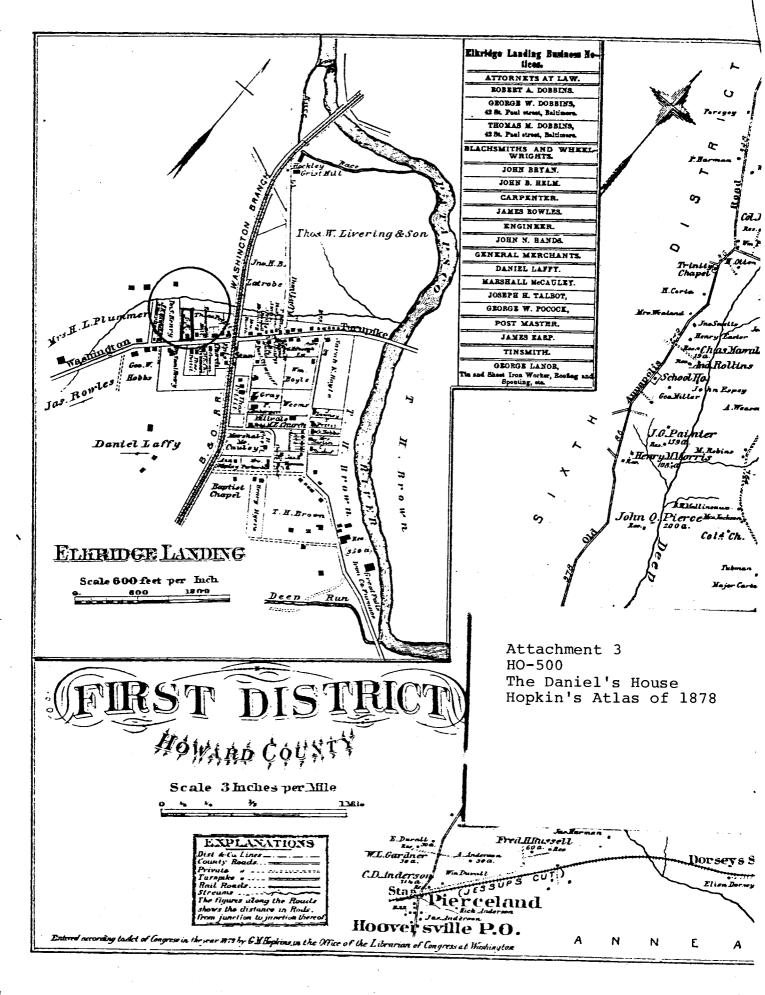
Evidently Elizabeth Bird Williams remained unmarried, living in the house with her brother, John M. Williams, also unmarried, for over twenty years. Though family heirlooms were given to specific children in their mother's will, this will malso stipulated that no furniture should be removed from the house as long as the brother and sister resided there in the family home. In 1958 the sister died, and a year later, the brother sold the property to the Scharf family.

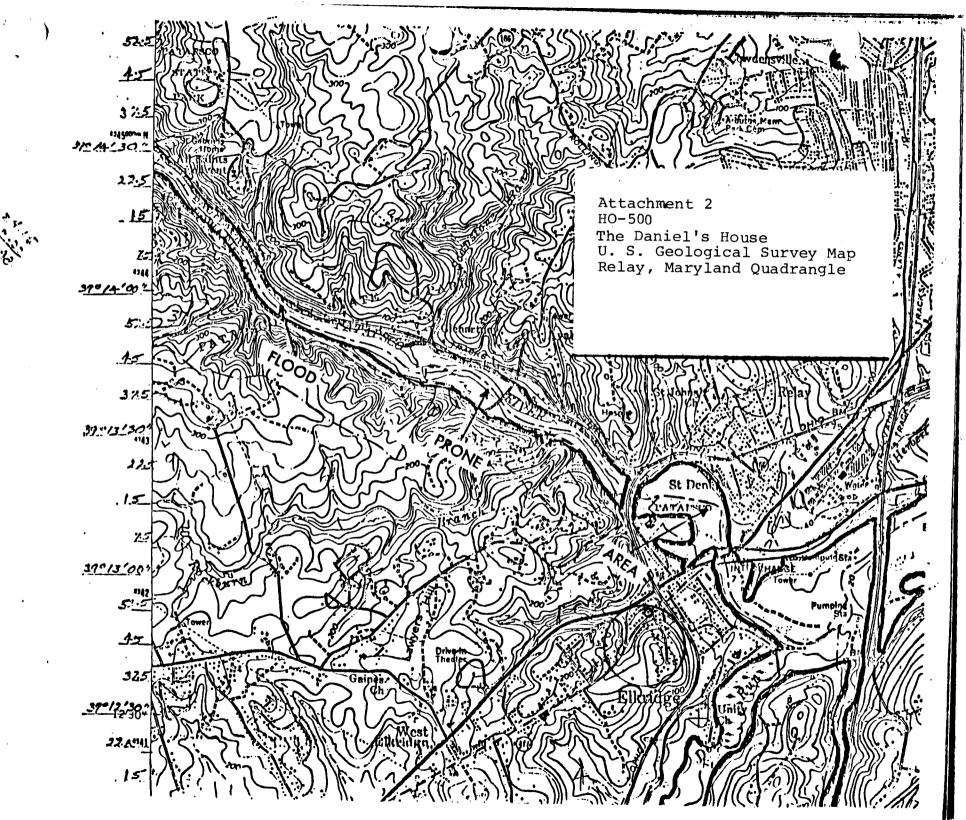
Now owned by the Daniel's family, it remains one of the outstanding frame houses in the Main Street, Elkridge area, which in conjunction with that area should be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, he State Critical Areas Program and any future local landmark ordinance.













Ho.500 The Daniel's House South

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